dover a radio-resource-control connection from the first network entity to a second network entity. Apparatus **900** can also include a performing unit **903** that performs handover preparation with the second network entity. Apparatus **900** can also include a retrieving unit **904** that retrieves a timing advance value from the second network entity. Apparatus **900** can also include a transmitting unit **905** that transmits radio-resource-control reconfiguration information to a user equipment. The radio-resource-control reconfiguration information includes the timing advance value and mobility information.

[0074] FIG. **10** illustrates an apparatus in accordance with embodiments of the invention. Apparatus **1000** can be a network entity such as an eNB/base station, for example. Apparatus **1000** can include a performing unit **1001** that performs handover preparation with a first network entity. Apparatus **1000** can also include a transmitting unit **1002** that transmits a timing advance value to the first network entity. Apparatus **1000** can also include a receiving unit **1003** that receives a scheduling request by a user equipment. A random-access-channel procedure may be avoided.

[0075] The described features, advantages, and characteristics of the invention can be combined in any suitable manner in one or more embodiments. One skilled in the relevant art will recognize that the invention can be practiced without one or more of the specific features or advantages of a particular embodiment. In other instances, additional features and advantages can be recognized in certain embodiments that may not be present in all embodiments of the invention. One having ordinary skill in the art will readily understand that the invention as discussed above may be practiced with steps in a different order, and/or with hardware elements in configurations which are different than those which are disclosed. Therefore, although the invention has been described based upon these preferred embodiments, it would be apparent to those of skill in the art that certain modifications, variations, and alternative constructions would be apparent, while remaining within the spirit and scope of the invention.

We claim:

1. A method, comprising:

detecting, by a user equipment, that a signaling strength of a first network entity has dropped below a threshold;

transmitting a measurement report to the first network entity;

receiving radio-resource-control reconfiguration information from the first network entity; and

transmitting a scheduling request to a second network entity, wherein a random-access-channel procedure is avoided.

2. The method according to claim **1**, wherein the first network entity comprises a master evolved-Node-B, and the second network entity comprises a secondary evolved-Node-B.

3. The method according to claim **1**, wherein the receiving comprises receiving a timing-advance value and mobility information.

4. The method according to claim **3**, wherein the timing-advance value corresponds to a timing-advance value of a cell of the second network entity.

5. An apparatus, comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code,

the at least one memory and the computer program code configured, with the at least one processor, to cause the apparatus at least to

detect that a signaling strength of a first network entity has dropped below a threshold;

transmit a measurement report to the first network entity;

receive radio-resource-control reconfiguration information from the first network entity; and

transmit a scheduling request to a second network entity, wherein a random-access-channel procedure is avoided.

6. The apparatus according to claim **5**, wherein the first network entity comprises a master evolved-Node-B, and the second network entity comprises a secondary evolved-Node-B.

7. The apparatus according to claim **5**, wherein the receiving comprises receiving a timing-advance value and mobility information.

8. The apparatus according to claim **7**, wherein the timing-advance value corresponds to a timing-advance value of a cell of the second network entity.

9. A method, comprising:

receiving, by a first network entity, a measurement report from a user equipment;

determining to handover a radio-resource-control connection from the first network entity to a second network entity;

performing handover preparation with the second network entity;

retrieving a timing advance value from the second network entity; and

transmitting radio-resource-control reconfiguration information to a user equipment, wherein the radio-resource-control reconfiguration information comprises the timing advance value and mobility information.

10. The method according to claim **9**, wherein the first network entity comprises a master evolved-Node-B, and the second network entity comprises a secondary evolved-Node-B.

11. The method according to claim **9**, wherein the timing-advance value corresponds to a timing-advance value of a cell of the second network entity.

12. An apparatus, comprising:

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code,

the at least one memory and the computer program code configured, with the at least one processor, to cause the apparatus at least to

receive a measurement report from a user equipment;

determine to handover a radio-resource-control connection from the apparatus to a network entity;

perform handover preparation with the network entity;

retrieve a timing advance value from the network entity; and

transmit radio-resource-control reconfiguration information to a user equipment, wherein the radio-resource-control reconfiguration information comprises the timing advance value and mobility information.

13. The apparatus according to claim **12**, wherein the apparatus comprises a master evolved-Node-B, and the network entity comprises a secondary evolved-Node-B.

14. The apparatus according to claim **12**, wherein the timing-advance value corresponds to a timing-advance value of a cell of the network entity.